

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed December 8, 2003, has been received and carefully noted. The amendments made herein and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

A "Request for Extension of Time" for extending the due date for responding to the Office Action by two months and a credit card payment form to cover the fee payment (\$420.00) for the extension are filed with this Amendment. Authorization is granted to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket No. 107314-08009, for any additional fees necessary for entry of this Amendment in response to the outstanding Office Action for the application.

In the present Amendment, claim 1 has been amended and claim 14 has been canceled, as indicated above, and claims 5-13 and 15-21 are withdrawn. Applicants submit that the amendments made herein are fully supported in the Specification and the drawings, as originally filed, and therefore no new matter has been introduced. Accordingly, claims 1-4 are presently pending for review in the present application and are respectfully submitted for reconsideration.

In the Office Action Summary for the Office Action mailed May 2, 2003, it is noted that claims 1, 4 and 14 are rejected and that claims 2 and 3 are objected to. However, in the "Detailed Action" of the Office Action, it is noted that "claims 1 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kim (6,104,753)" and that "claims 2-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim (6,104,753)." Accordingly, it is believed that the Examiner intended for independent claims 1 and 14 to stand rejected under Section 102(e) based upon the Kim patent and for dependent claims 2-4 to stand rejected under

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Section 103(e) based upon the Kim patent. Based upon these assumptions, the rejection of independent claim 14 has been rendered moot in view of this claim being canceled. The rejections as to the remaining claims are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Independent claim 1, as amended, recites a motion picture decoding apparatus comprising a variable length decoder for decoding an inputted variable length coded transform coefficient; an inverse quantizer for inversely quantizing the transform coefficient supplied by the variable length decoder, thereby transforming the coefficient back to an orthogonal transform coefficient; a coefficient reducing circuit for transforming the orthogonal transform coefficient obtained by the inverse quantizer back to a certain sized block of orthogonal transform coefficients and for removing orthogonal transform coefficients for high horizontal frequencies from the certain sized block of orthogonal transform coefficients, thereby reducing the number of transform coefficients to half; an inverse orthogonal transformation circuit for performing an inverse orthogonal transform operation by using the transform coefficients reduced by the coefficient reducing circuit, thereby obtaining, a block-by-block basis, reconstructed image data or time-axis prediction error data horizontally compressed to 1/2; an adder for generating reconstructed image data horizontally compressed to 1/2, based on the time axis prediction error data provided by the inverse orthogonal transformation circuit and on predetermined reference image data; and one or more than one reference image memories for storing reconstructed image data which is included in the reconstructed image data provided by the inverse orthogonal transformation circuit or the adder and is needed for generating the reference image data. It is submitted that the Kim patent fails to disclose or suggest the motion picture decoding apparatus, as claimed.

Particularly, with reference to Fig. 19 of the Kim patent, it is submitted as disclosing an HDTV video decoder circuit including a VLD/demultiplexer 53 for conducting a variable length decoding of a received bit stream to separate the bit stream into motion vectors, quantizing values and 8x8 DCT coefficients, an 8x4 zonal filter 54 for removing horizontal high frequency regions from the quantizing values and the 8x8 DCT coefficients received from the VLD/demultiplexer 53, an inverse quantizing part 55 for quantizing the 8x4 DCT coefficients from the zonal filter 54 according to the quantizing values, and an IDCT part 56 for conducting an 8x4 IDCT of the quantized coefficients from the inverse quantizing part 55 to restore a video signal. (col. 13, ls. 55-67) Such, however, does not disclose or suggest a motion picture decoding apparatus comprising, in pertinent part, a coefficient reducing circuit, which removes orthogonal transform coefficients for high horizontal frequencies from the certain sized block of orthogonal transform coefficients, thereby reducing the number of transform coefficients to half (Specification, Fig. 5), provided in the downstream side of the inverse quantizer. Rather, in contrast, the Kim patent discloses that the 8x4 zonal filter 54 is provided in the upstream side of the inverse quantizing part 55. In order to switch the decode modes according to the types of input signals so that HDTV video is down-decoded (the coefficients are reduced) and SDTV video is full-decoded (the coefficients are not reduced), the Kim patent requires switching the operation of the inverse quantizer between HDTV video and SDTV video. In contrast, in the present claimed invention, it is not necessary to change the operation of the inverse quantizer between HDTV video and SDTV video.

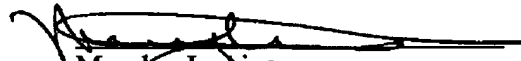
Accordingly, it is therefore submitted that independent claim 1 is patentable based on the Kim patent not disclosing or suggesting the motion picture decoding apparatus, as claimed. It is

further submitted that the corresponding dependent claims are also patentable since they differ in scope from the parent independent claim. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the Applicants' undersigned counsel at the telephone number, indicated below, to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,



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